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Above: Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation run 180 miles from San Carlos each year as they remember their ancestors who were forced to march the same distance from their Camp Verde homes in 1875. **Below:** Following the San Carlos-to-Camp Verde run, members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation sing, celebrate with cultural performances, arts and crafts, food – and remember their ancestors who were forced to leave their home in 1875. (Photos by Bill Helm)

Yavapai-Apache Nation remembers

Annual commemoration day includes spirit run, blessings, cultural performances, food

By BILL HELM
Staff Reporter

CAMP VERDE – At about 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, a near 30-hour run from San Carlos will conclude with a Commemorative Walk as members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation will meet on Middle Verde Road in front of the Yavapai-Apache Cultural Center.

Each year on the last Saturday in February, the Nation observes the events of Feb. 27, 1875 when close to 1,500 Yavapai and Tonto Apache from the Rio Verde Reserve were forced to march east of Camp Verde to what would be their new home – San Carlos.

Incarcerated, the lives of the Yavapai and Tonto Apache peoples were irrevocably changed, as they experienced hunger and disease.

At the turn of the next century, the two nations had become the Yavapai-Apache Nation, as about 200 Yavapai and Apache were sent back by their captors – back to their new home in the Verde Valley.

Saturday’s commemoration honors the Nation’s return to its homeland in 1900.

The San Carlos Exodus Run will begin at 5 a.m. Feb. 23 from San Carlos. The run is a relay format with runners



Schedule of events, 2018 Exodus

All events at Veterans Memorial Park, unless otherwise noted

6 a.m. – Boynton Canyon Blessing ceremony – Enchantment Resort

7 a.m. until 5 p.m. – Vendors

11 a.m. – San Carlos runners return

11 a.m. – Annual commemorative walk from Veterans Memorial Park to Culture Center

Noon – Community luncheon

1 p.m. until 4 p.m. – Cultural entertainment

4 p.m. Community dinner and social dance



SEE EXODUS PAGE 5

Punish doctors who prescribe weed too easily?



Yavapai County Attorney Sheila Polk (Capitol Media Services file photo /Howard Fischer)

Could get year in prison for not conducting a full medical exam first

By HOWARD FISCHER
Capitol Media Services

PHOENIX — State lawmakers are moving to make felons of doctors who don’t follow all the rules when recommending that a patient be allowed to use marijuana.

The 6-3 vote Thursday by the House Health Committee for HB 2067 would impose prison terms of up to a year for medical professionals who fail to conduct a full medical exam before issuing the state certification that is required for patients in Arizona to buy and use the drug legally. That same penalty would also apply to doctors who do not review at least a year of the patient’s medical records prior to allowing the patient to use marijuana.

The committee’s vote on HB 2067 followed complaints by Yavapai County Attorney Sheila Polk about “pot docs” — doctors who, she said, are in the business of making as much money as possible by providing the certification patients in Arizona need to legally purchase and use marijuana.

Polk has made no secret of her opposition to medical marijuana, which Arizona voters approved in 2010. She has said she wants to make certain that doctors follow the certification process that is already required by state regulations. That process, she told lawmakers, is not always followed. As proof, she cited billboards that advertise that people can get a medical marijuana card in Arizona without having any medical records.

Thursday’s vote is the second victory for Polk in her fight against medical marijuana.

Sen. Sonny Borrelli, R-Lake Havasu City, said Polk’s lobbying forced him to abandon his effort to slash the \$150 annual fee the state Depart-

SEE PUNISH PAGE 5

A white Toyota truck with Kansas plates is removed from the scene of a deadly shooting Jan. 5 in Oak Creek Canyon. (VVN/Vyto Starinkas)



Man shot by Forest Service officer was bloodied, naked

Staff Reports

OAK CREEK CANYON – A new report released this week states that the man who was shot and killed by a U.S. Forest Service Agent in Oak Creek Canyon on Jan. 5 was seen walking down State Route 89A bloodied and naked.

A Coconino County Sheriff’s Office investigation report identifies the officer as U.S. Forest Service Agent Krista Kuhns. The man

who died was 51-year-old Tyler Miller, of Hutchinson, Kan.

CCSO Deputy Kyle Walter was requested to assist after it was transmitted across the radio that Kuhns was at a vehicle collision on SR 89A near the Briar Patch Inn.

According to the report, Walter heard Kuhns give a description of a bloodied man

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SHERIFF’S OFFICE WARNS OF SECRET SHOPPER SURVEY SCAM

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